

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 1, 2014

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2115

Introduced by Assembly Member Bradford

February 20, 2014

An act to amend Section 18911 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to CalFresh.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2115, as amended, Bradford. CalFresh: school meals.

Existing law provides for the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), known in California as CalFresh, under which supplemental nutrition assistance benefits allocated to the state by the federal government are distributed to eligible individuals by each county. Existing federal law requires that a child receiving benefits under SNAP be certified as eligible for free lunches and free breakfasts without further application. Existing law requires a county welfare department to compile a list of emergency food providers and make that list available upon request.

This bill would additionally require a county ~~welfare department~~ *human services agency* to compile a list of child feeding and summer feeding programs. The bill would also require a county human services agency to provide an applicant household that has children with information about how to enroll the children in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs while the CalFresh application is pending and to inform the household that if the household is certified for CalFresh, all children in the household are directly certified for the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs without further application.

By increasing the duties of county ~~welfare departments~~, *human services agencies*, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 18911 of the Welfare and Institutions
2 Code is amended to read:

3 18911. (a) An application and an authorization for participation
4 in CalFresh shall be processed within a period of not more than
5 30 days from the date of application.

6 (b) The department shall develop written information that
7 describes the eligibility and verification requirements for expedited
8 service, the process for applying for those benefits, and the
9 availability of assistance in filling out the forms and gathering
10 needed documentation.

11 (c) A county ~~welfare department~~ *human services agency* shall
12 make the material developed pursuant to subdivision (b) available
13 to an applicant at the time the applicant initially seeks CalFresh
14 benefits.

15 (d) A county ~~welfare department~~ *human services agency* shall,
16 upon request, make available the information developed pursuant
17 to subdivision (b) to community action agencies, legal services
18 offices, emergency food programs, and other programs.

19 (e) A county ~~human service~~ *services* agency shall compile a list
20 of emergency food providers, including local child feeding and
21 summer feeding programs, in the area served by the local CalFresh
22 office. The list shall be updated, based on information from the
23 food providers, cities, and school districts. The list shall be made
24 available to households applying for CalFresh. A county ~~welfare~~
25 ~~department~~ *human services agency* shall provide an applicant
26 household that has children with information about how to enroll

1 the children in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast
2 Programs while the CalFresh application is pending and shall
3 inform the household that if the household is certified for CalFresh,
4 all children in the household are directly certified for the National
5 School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs without further
6 application.

7 (f) A county-welfare-department *human services agency* shall
8 make available to CalFresh applicants, upon request,
9 nonpromotional information that contains addresses and phone
10 numbers of local legal services and welfare rights organizations.

11 SEC. 2. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that
12 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to
13 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made
14 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division
15 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.